

HISTORY OF RNPS AND ANPS IN ARKANSAS

The Registered Nurse Practitioner role evolved in the early 70's. Educational preparation for the RNP role included certificate and master degree programs and nurse practitioner coursework incorporated into baccalaureate nursing programs.

The Nurse Practice Act of 1995 provided for the Advanced Nurse Practitioner category of Advanced Practice Nurses. In addition to the requirement for completion of a nurse practitioner program, the licensee must also have certification from a board approved national certifying body.

Arkansas is the only state which has the designation of both a Registered Nurse Practitioner and an Advanced Nurse Practitioner.



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**ADVANCED NURSE
PRACTITIONERS**
&
**REGISTERED NURSE
PRACTITIONERS**

What is the difference?



ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING
REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND ADVANCED NURSE PRACTITIONERS

	RNP	ANP
Certificate or Master's Nurse Practitioner Program	Either	Either - Master's required since 1/1/03
Board approved national certification	Not required	Yes
Scope of practice limitations	Defined by protocols and in accordance with rules and regulations	Defined by certifying body, educational preparation and competence. Prescriptive authority limited to scope of the certifying body and the collaborative practice agreement
Protocols	Basis of practice - developed in collaboration with and signed by physician	Only for prescribing
Physician supervision	Determined by protocols	Not required for acts within scope of practice
Physician on site	Not required	Not required
Orders co-signed by physicians	By facility requirement	Not required
Collaborative Practice Agreement	None	Yes, for prescriptive authority
Prescriptive Authority	No - Transmits physician's medication orders to inpatient medical records or to pharmacies, from protocols - no controlled drugs	Yes, if certificate of prescriptive authority obtained- writes own prescriptions based on assessment and diagnosis
DEA Number	Not eligible	Eligible to apply after prescriptive authority obtained - Schedule III - V controlled substances only